

**HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION posthumously honoring "We the People... The Citizen and the Constitution" advocate William G. "Bill" Baker for his years of service to this nationally recognized civic education program and for his role in making Indiana a leader for that program.

Michael, Bell, VanDenburgh

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on _____



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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION posthumously honoring "We the People... The Citizen and the Constitution" advocate William G. "Bill" Baker for his years of service to this nationally recognized civic education program and for his role in making Indiana a leader for that program.

Whereas, One of the goals of the "We the People... The Citizen and the Constitution" competition is to "promote civic competence and responsibility among the nation's elementary and secondary students;" and

Whereas, Since the beginning of the "We the People..." competition in 1987, more than 26 million students and 82,000 educators have participated, as well as members of Congress, businesses, professions, and community organizations across the nation; and

Whereas, The "We the People..." competition is based on a classroom curriculum that complements the regular school curriculum by providing upper elementary, middle, and high school students with an innovative course of instruction on the history and principles of constitutional democracy in the United States; and

Whereas, The "We the People..." competition was designed to include a wide range of students with varying



abilities; and

Whereas, William G. "Bill" Baker served with the initial group of people who created "We the People..." and brought the program to Indiana; and

Whereas, William G. "Bill" Baker spent the entire 22 years of the program's existence devoted to exposing Indiana lawyers to the benefits of contributing to an enlightened and engaged citizenry, including serving as a volunteer judge at congressional district, state and national competitions every year; and

Whereas, William G. "Bill" Baker introduced the Indiana State Bar Association (ISBA) to "We the People...", finding and securing a permanent home for the program in the hearts and minds of Indiana attorneys; was the first and longest serving Chair for the ISBA and Indiana Bar Foundation's joint Citizenship Education Advisory Committee; and served on the National Advisory Committee for the Center for Civic Education; and

Whereas, William G. "Bill" Baker protected, defended and cultivated "We the People..." every year of its existence, his legacy will live forever within the hearts of millions of students, parents, teachers and volunteers who have been touched by the program; and

Whereas, Involvement with "We the People..." allows students to develop a greater understanding of democratic principles and values and promotes political tolerance, civic education leaders, such as William G. "Bill," Baker, help prepare the youth of Indiana for a future that will encourage knowledge of and participation in our democratic system of government; therefore:

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:*



1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly recognizes the
2 contributions of William G. "Bill" Baker to civic education in Indiana,
3 his dedication to an educated and engaged citizenry which will prove
4 to serve as a model for future generations of civic education leaders.
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6 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
7 Representatives shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the family of
8 William G. "Bill" Baker and the Indiana Bar Foundation to honor his
9 memory.

